

SCCA Newsletter

November 2011

State, Community, and Educational Leaders Gather Together to Recognize JAG Members at Mullins High School



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Pictured above from left to right: Rebecca Ford, Mullins High School Principal; Dr. Anderson, SC DEW; Elaine Midkiff, JAG-SC Director; Honorable Jim Clyburn, US Congressman 6th District of SC; Terry Davis, MHS JAG Specialist; Tyrell Grice, SCCA Delegate; Dr. Dan Strickland, Superintendent Marion County School District Two; Shanique Hemmingway, MHS JAG President, Dr. Candace Bethea, Deputy Superintendent Marion County School District Two

On October 17, 2011 Mullins High School JAG (Jobs for America's Graduates) held its 4th Annual Career Association Initiation and Installation (I&I) ceremony. It was indeed a success. The greatest accomplishment for JAG thus far here at Mullins High School will be the graduation of the class of 2012.

The I&I Planning Committee was excited when it received confirmation that the Honorable James E. Clyburn, U.S. Congressman 6th District of South Carolina would be our guest speaker. Continued on P. 7

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Calhoun County High School

Work-Related Skills Practiced in the School

The 2011-2012 Jobs for America's Graduates-South Carolina program at Calhoun County High School has been constantly at work with The Saints Cafe Coffee and Smoothie Shop that operates at the school. Operator, Mr. Brijesh Bala, special education teacher, along with his students team up with several JAG students to run a successful business. Those JAG student workers are; Keymo Walker, William Fick, Keyondra Brounson, Darrell Keller, and April Smith. As they work together, the JAG students spread their knowledge to the special resource students and they all get the work related skills along with teamwork, and leadership skills. The students who volunteer to work at the cafe receive community service credit in their JAG class and also broaden their knowledge about the skills that they need. This special project shows how JAG can make a significant difference in the life of others and can get ALL students prepared for their future.



At left, Xavier Brown and April Smith preparing smoothies.

At right, Keyondra Brounson is training by ringing up April's order.

Site of the 2011 National Student Leadership Conference

HILTON MCLEAN TYSONS CORNER

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Colleton County High School Career Association – Site 1

The JAG Career Association at Colleton County High school does many different community service activities to include volunteering with our Special Service Department and campaigning to keep youth in school. One of our favorite activities involves working with the Backpack Buddies Program. On the first Wednesday of each month, our JAG Career Association partners with our local Clemson Extension Agency and the Backpack Buddies Program to unpack boxes of kid-friendly non-perishable food. The food is then repacked into individual bags to distribute to elementary students from food-insecure homes in our community. These elementary students are provided with a backpack containing healthy snacks at the end of every week during



the school year. Recently, our Career Association partnered with our Special Services Department to volunteer in certain classes.

-By: Dallas Brinson, Colleton I JAG President



Above Left: Dallas Brinson, President with School Board Member at Backpack Buddies.



Above Right: JAG Students unpacking food to distribute to elementary schools!

Darlington High School

Darlington, SC

Jobs for America's Graduates—SC

Cell Phones for Victims

The Darlington High School JAG-SC students are very active in community service. This month is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. To help bring about awareness and to show appreciation to one of our business partners, Tracey Williamson, Pee Dee Coalition Against Domestic Violence), the students will sponsor a Domestic Violence Awareness Week. They will also participate in the National Make A Difference Day on Saturday, October 22nd at Lindbergh's Bar-B-Que, 1215 S. Main Street, Darlington-9 am—3:00 pm. The students are in the process of collecting old cell phones/adapters and donating them to the Pee Dee Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The cell phones will be refurbished and given to the victims. The students are currently soliciting support from the school and the community. Note: Cell phones can also be mailed to Darlington High School JAG Career Association, 525 Spring Street, Darlington, SC 29532.

Tyrell Sutton
State Delegate



- **Kanajah Cooper — President**
- **Freddricka Pressley — Global Youth Service Chair**
- **Tyrell Sutton — Secretary**
- **Mercedes Harsey — Historian**
- **Alexus Eadie — Parliamentarian**
- **Hazel Kelly — Vice President of Leadership Development**
- **Tyrell Grice — Vice President of Social Awareness**
- **Robert Kane — Treasurer**
- **Keymo Walker — Delegate**
- **Ty'Keouna Gainey— Delegate**
- **Tiffany Sanders — Delegate**
- **Keonia Johnson — Delegate**
- **Alexis Martin —Delegate**
- **Michael Ashford — Delegate**
- **Tiffany Jackson — Delegate**
- **Denisha Akins — Delegate**
- **Darius Barton — Delegate**
- **Jerald Barber — Delegate**
- **Ashley Lomax — Delegate**

South Florence
Creek Bridge
Darlington
Swansea
Berkeley
West Florence
Mullins
Chesnee
Calhoun
Lancaster
Wilson
Lake Marion
Manning
CA Johnson
McCormick
Wade Hampton
Woodmont
Rock Hill
Carolina

Carolina High School

‘Congratulate Carmen Dixon’

Carmen was chosen to sing at the 2011 JAG Leadership Awards Luncheon on November 17, 2011 at the Hyatt Regency on Capital Hill. She will be in Washington, DC participating in the annual JAG National Student Leadership Conference.



**Good luck to
all of our NSLC
Cover Design com-
petitors from across
South Carolina!**

NSLC Competitive Events

Public Speaking Schedule

Forrest Payne, Chesnee High School	JAG – SC 4:00 PM
Edwin Trey Sanders, Wade Hampton High School	JAG – SC 4:00 PM
Fabien McGill, Mullins High School	JAG - SC 4:00 PM

Employability Skills Schedule

Michael Ashford, CA Johnson High School	JAG – SC 4:20 PM
Jasmine McCoy, South Florence High School	JAG – SC 4:20 PM
Darvaris Gregg, South Florence High School	JAG – SC 4:20 PM



JAG Carolina, We dream. We Learn. We create. A collaborative effort to promote the growing importance of advanced manufacturing careers. JAG Carolina participated with other upstate school in the Manufacturing Expo.

Participating Manufacturers/Organizations

Southern Weaving Company
 ADEX Machining Technologies, LLC
 ATS Advanced Technology Services, Inc.
 Fabrico
 BMW
 Caterpillar
 Leigh Fibers
 GE Energy
 GE Aviation

Honeywell
 Robert Bosch
 Mechatronics
 Sage Automotive
 3M
 ARCLABS
 Greenville Technical College
 Draexlmaier Automotive
 Greenville Works

Participating Schools

Greer Middle School
 Berea Middle School
 Beck Academy
 Lakeview Middle
 Woodmont High School
 JL Mann High School
 Wade Hampton High School
 Donaldson Career Center
 Greenville Technical College Charter High School

Sevier Middle School
 Hughes Academy
 Tanglewood Middle
 Carolina High School
 Travelers Rest High School
 Hillcrest High School
 Berea High School
 Golden Strip Career Center
 Brashier Middle College



continued from page 1... Congressman Clyburn delivered a magnificent speech. He reminded the students that they should never give up because the "three strikes, you're out policy" is only a baseball rule. He also commented on how impressed he was with the MHS JAG students.

The theme for this year was "YES, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. " Tyrell Grice, a MHS JAG State Delegate was Master of Ceremony, and he kept the program flowing smoothly. Kristen Graves, accompanied by Sean Gilchrist on piano, sang a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem. She received a standing ovation. Those in attendance received a very warm welcome from Heather Owens. The goals of the JAG Career Association are very important. As our students explain each goal they also share with us what impact serving on that committee meant to them and the difference it has made in their lives. Other JAG members highlighted some of their specific talents as evidence of what they have gained from participating in a vast array of extracurricular activities at MHS. Some of the highlights included the MCJROTC presenting the colors, and musical selections provided by the MHS Jazz Band.

Kylea Pickett and Shebbena Bennett shared the history of the MHS JAG Program which brought back many unforgettable memories. Pickett declared, "We aren't just the class that always goes on field trips, we're trained for life through the many skills we have learned in the areas of Leadership, Community Service, and Social and Civic Awareness.

A moment of silence in memory of former JAG student, Douglas Smith, was very emotional, and the lighting of the candles served as a reminder of how much the members of the JAG Program really mean to each other. It was humbling. Our president, Shanique Hemingway did an outstanding job of introducing our guest speaker for the occasion, Congressman Clyburn.

Tyrell Grice delivered a poem that he wrote himself to explain how the JAG Program benefits our community as a whole; therefore, it is needed more than ever. His message within the poem was to demonstrate how students who take part in the JAG Program are instilled with the confidence to reap the positive consequences of letting their light shine instead of being drawn to negative activities because they have no real direction. Fabien McGill, C.E.O., also proclaimed, "We need JAG now more than ever before because it is not only an organization, it is a family."

During the ceremony, the fourteen Community Service Projects were recognized, and the fourteen local businesses that have employed JAG members part-time received awards.

Next month the SCCA Newsletter will feature poems from JAG Members. Ask your Specialist to submit your poem and you will have a good chance having your work published in the JAG SCCA Newsletter for December.

Jobs for America's Graduates—South Carolina

Elaine Midkiff

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JAG—South Carolina attends Youth Service Institute as Lead Agency



Pictured from left to right:
Kanajah Cooper, SCCA President
Charles Orgbon, YSA Youth Council
Freddricka Pressley, SCCA GYSD Chair
Clay Cohen, SCCA Advisor



Jobs for America's Graduates, founded in 1980, has served approximately 750,000 participants in JAG Model Programs in more than 32 states and 800 programs conducted in Middle Schools, High Schools, Community Colleges, and Community-Based Organizations. For over three decades, JAG Model Programs have achieved extraordinary outcomes, including: kept at-risk youth in middle school and high school through graduation; assisted JAG graduates in securing an entry level job leading to career advancement opportunities; encouraged and helped JAG graduates pursue a postsecondary education; and provided program participants with competency-based classroom experiences, recognition and leadership opportunities in the motivational JAG student organization, work-based learning experiences prior to and for 12 months following graduation from high school; and a network of relationships that will enhance the outcomes of JAG, a confidence-building and motivating national student organization with service-learning activities and numerous opportunities for recognition, active local chapters, and assistance in becoming more than when participants were interviewed and selected for a JAG Model program. The purpose of JAG has always been to "make a difference" in the personal, professional, and career life of program participants.

WWW.JAG.ORG

JAG representatives recently attended the Youth Service Institute (YSI) for the first time ever, as a Lead Agent of Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) in South Carolina. The YSI was held in Philadelphia, PA and was sponsored by State Farm. YSI provided training for advocates of 'service learning'. The main idea behind the Youth Service Institute was to inform and inspire service learning projects across America. Kathy Payne, Senior Director for Educational Leadership with State Farm, pointed out that we must provide leadership opportunities that will allow young people to demonstrate their skills if we expect them to do so once they become adults.

She compared this idea with learning to drive, claiming that we would not want a young person to start driving unless they had been given a chance to practice. Steven Culbertson, YSA President, stated that "young people cannot become leaders of tomorrow unless we give them a chance to lead today." He believes that 'service learning' can be attained as early as kindergarten. The YSI provided workshop style training to help educational and community leaders begin implementing 'service learning'. JAG representatives will present the information from the YSI to colleagues in order to prepare for GYSD.

